

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 28609 01 OF 02 291949Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

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O 291930Z SEP 76

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 3576

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 28609

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SUBJECT: XCSS OCTOBER 14-15: HEADS OF DEL DISCUSSION

SEPT. 28

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF SEPT. 28 HEADS OF DEL
DISCUSSION ON AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 14-15 XCSS. KEY ITEMS
OF INTEREST WERE OUTLINED BY SECRETARIAT OF ORGANIZATION
IT FORESEES FOR DISCUSSION OF NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES AND
OBJECTION BY FRENCH, SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL OTHERS, TO
IDEA THAT XCSS, RATHER THAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES,
SHOULD CARRY OUT WORK ON EAST-EAST ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

NORTH-SOUTH

2. SECRETARIAT OUTLINED THREE MAIN QUESTIONS WHICH
XCSS MIGHT ADDRESS AT OCTOBER MEETING: 1) LONG-TERM
ORIENTATION OF DC-LDC ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND DC
OBJECTIVES, BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL, IN THE DIA-
LOGUE (SECRETARIAT PAPER WILL BE FORTHCOMING ON THIS
ITEM); 2) OVERALL VIEW OF POSSIBLE RESULTS BY END OF
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PAGE 02 OECD P 28609 01 OF 02 291949Z

CIEC, PARTICULARLY THE MINIMUM CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH

THE VARIOUS GROUPS OF COUNTRIES INVOLVED WOULD CONSIDER THE CONFERENCE A SUCCESS; AND 3) EXAMINATION OF SPECIFIC PROBLEMS OF A HORIZONTAL NATURE, SUCH AS TRADE AND INVESTMENT, WITH A VIEW TO ASCERTAINING POINTS WHERE FURTHER PROGRESS WAS ESSENTIAL. ONLY SIGNIFICANT COMMENT ON THIS PRESENTATION WAS BY US DEL (KATZ), WHO SAID WASHINGTON WAS CONSIDERING SPECIFICS OF FOLLOW UP TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSALS AT OECD MINISTERIAL, WHICH STRESSED IMPROVED DC COORDINATION WITH RESPECT TO ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS, IMPROVED AID COORDINATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF LONGER-TERM INTEGRATED APPROACH TO RELATIONS WITH LDC'S.

EAST-WEST

3. SECRETARIAT INTRODUCED SUBJECT BY DESCRIBING DOCUMENTS JUST ISSUED IN RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION OF JULY XCSS MEETING AND STATING IT NOW UP TO GOVERNMENTS TO SAY HOW THEY WISH TO PROCEED. DISCUSSION WAS DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO PROCEDURAL ISSUE RAISED BY FRENCH REP (AMB. BOEGNER), WHO THOUGHT E-W, UNLIKE N-S, COULD AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES IN COUNCIL OR HEADS OF DEL RATHER THAN BY "PARALLEL SUBSTITUTE BODY" (XCSS). MAIN THRUST OF HIS ARGUMENT WAS THAT N-S DISCUSSIONS WERE FOCUSED MAINLY ON NEGOTIATIONS TAKING PLACE IN CIEC OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND IT WAS THEREFORE APPROPRIATE TO PUT IT IN THE HANDS OF OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE NEGOTIATIONS. E-W DISCUSSION ON THE OTHER HAND WOULD HAVE MAJOR IMPACT ON OECD'S OWN WORK PROGRAM AND REQUIRE CONTINUAL SUPERVISION BY POLICY LEVEL OF THE ORGANIZATION. BOEGNER FURTHER ARGUED THAT ALLOWING XCSS FULL SOVEREIGNTY TO DECIDE ITS AGENDA AND TO KEEP DISCUSSION OF CERTAIN SUBJECTS TO ITSELF WAS INCONSISTENT WITH COUNCIL'S DUTY TO ORGANIZE OECD WORK. ITALY AND AUSTRIA SUPPORTED FRANCE. SECGEN VAN LENNEP REPLIED BY NOTING THAT ALL XCSS WORK WAS REFERRED BACK TO COUNCIL IN LAST ANALYSIS AND THAT IN HIS VIEW COUNCIL SHOULD NOT NORMALLY INTERFERE IN WORK OF COMMITTEES

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PAGE 03 OECD P 28609 01 OF 02 291949Z

UNLESS THEY WENT OUTSIDE THEIR MANDATE. SECGEN NOTED HE WOULD NOT HAVE PUT E-W ITEM ON XCSS AGENDA IF HE THOUGHT IT OUTSIDE XCSS MANDATE.

4. FRENCH REP ASSURED HEADS OF DEL HE DID NOT MEAN TO CAST DOUBT ON SECGEN'S JUDGMENT ON THIS MATTER OR CRITICIZE US FOR PROPOSING XCSS TAKE UP E-W QUESTION, AND HAD NO DESIRE TO STERILIZE XCSS OR REQUIRE POSITIVE

APPROVAL BY COUNCIL OF LOWER BODIES' ACTIVITIES.
BOEGNER REEMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, HIS VIEW THAT COUNCIL
SHOULD PLAY MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN ORGANIZING WORK IN
OECD. US DEL INTERVENED TO STRESS APPROPRIATENESS
OF XCSS CONSIDERATION OF E-W QUESTION BECAUSE OF
ATTENDANCE BY SENIOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY

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PAGE 01 OECD P 28609 02 OF 02 292014Z

70

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O 291930Z SEP 76

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OFFICIALS AND SPECIFIC MANDATE OF GROUP TO CONSIDER
INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF VARIOUS FUNCTIONAL FACETS OF
PROBLEMS. HE NOTED US DID NOT DISAGREE WITH OTHERS
ON QUESTION OF ULTIMATE SUPREMACY OF COUNCIL UNDER
THE OECD CONVENTION.

5. AT THE END OF SESSION, BELGIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT
XCSS CONFINE ACTION TO DISCUSSION OF SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS.
XCSS PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE WORK SHOULD BE
SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION. SECCGEN VAN LENNEP
SAID THIS WAS WHAT HE HAD IN MIND.

6. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION: GIVEN THE SENSITIVITIES OF SOME OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AS EVIDENCED IN THE HEADS OF DEL DISCUSSION ON E-W, AND THE CLEAR JURIDICAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OECD COUNCIL FOR PARCELLING OUT AND COORDINATING WORK AMONG EXISTING BODIES OF THE ORGANIZATION, WE BELIEVE THE OUTCOME OF THE XCSS DISCUSSION ON THIS QUESTION SHOULD HAVE TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 OECD P 28609 02 OF 02 292014Z

PARALLEL ELEMENTS: 1) THE XCSS SHOULD RECOMMEND TO THE OECD COUNCIL THAT IT TAKE STEPS TO INTENSIFY THE WORK IN EXISTING BODIES AND IN PARTICULAR TO HAVE THESE BODIES EXAMINE CERTAIN SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN AREAS SUCH AS ENERGY, AGRICULTURE, TRADE, SHIPPING, FINANCE, DEBT, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER WHICH THE XCSS MAY HAVE IDENTIFIED AS BEING OF INTEREST; AND 2) THE XCSS SHOULD ASK THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO UNDERTAKE, IN COOPERATION WITH EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS A STUDY OF THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF VARIOUS E-W ISSUES IN A LONGER TERM PERSPECTIVE, INCLUDING THOSE INVOLVING THE THIRD WORLD, AND TO REPORT BACK TO XCSS. EXPERTS IN THIS CASE WOULD HAVE TO BE OFFICIALS WITH THE INTELLECTUAL CAPABILITY TO TAKE A BROAD-GAUGED VIEW OF EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO MAKE THIS POINT IN THE KEY OECD CAPITALS. THE EXPERTS WOULD NOT BE INVOLVED IN PARCELLING OUT OR COORDINATING WORK FOR OTHER COMMITTEES (WHICH, AS NOTED ABOVE, IS A COUNCIL FUNCTION), BUT WOULD PREPARE GROUND FOR DISCUSSIONS OF AN INTERDISCIPLINARY NATURE IN XCSS ITSELF. MISSION BELIEVES THAT INCLUDING SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF THE FIRST ELEMENT, A RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL, SHOULD HELP REDUCE THE DANGER OF COUNTRIES POSING PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS TO THE SECOND ELEMENT, AND THAT THIS TWO-PRONGED APPROACH SHOULD BE PART OF PRE-XCSS DEMARCHE US SHOULD MAKE TO KEY OECD CAPITALS.

KATZ

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